

**Northern Virginia Regional Strategic Planning Project**  
**Psychiatric Hospitals Committee – Meeting Notes**  
**January 11, 2005**

**In Attendance:**

Dave Carlini, Prince William Hospital  
JoEllen Carpenter, Inova Mt. Vernon Hospital  
Lynn DeLacy, NVMHI  
Jim Dee, Mt. Vernon Hospital  
Bryan Dearing, NVCH/Dominion  
Mark Diorio, NVTC  
Joan Durman, Consultant  
Shawn Gallagher, Inova Mt. Vernon Hospital  
Sally Garrett, NVMHI  
Amanda Goza, NVMHI  
Kitty Harold, Virginia Hospital Center  
Sharon Jones, Fairfax-Falls Church CSB

Elizabeth Leeth, Inova Fairfax Hospital  
Lynn McFadden, Snowden at Fredericksburg  
Noori Mirmirani, Mt. Vernon Hospital  
L. Jean Reynolds, Dominion Hospital  
Anne Rieger, Mt. Vernon Hospital  
Lou Rosato, NVMHI  
Rita Romano, Prince William CSB  
Catherine Stuart, Loudoun Hospital  
Jim Thur, Fairfax-Falls Church CSB  
Carol Ulrich, NAMI-Northern Virginia  
Leslie Weisman, Arlington CSB  
Liz Wixson, Alexandria CSB

**Introductions and Announcements**

- Introductions were made and attendees were welcomed.
- Jim Thur reported that since the group's last meeting, Tom Maynard was appointed Executive Director of the Loudoun County Community Services Board.
- Jim Thur indicated he and Alexandria CSB Executive Director Mike Gilmore are serving on a statewide work group regarding the tracking of vacant hospital beds. He explained there are approximately 25 members of the group, including representatives from hospitals and the Hospital Association and they meet via conference calls. The work group was initiated by the General Assembly as an effort to allow up to date electronic access to information about bed availability around the state. The initial pilot effort has been scaled back to only include children's beds.
- Jim Thur reported that TDO beds continue to be discussed at the State level and indicated there might be opportunity to affect changes in the process.
- Jim Thur acknowledged the success of the Governor's conference on restructuring, which was held in December. Several persons who provided presentations at the conference are involved in the Northern Virginia Regional Strategic Planning Project. Rita Romano congratulated Prince William Hospital, which was presented with a Governor's Award at the conference.

**1. Approval of Notes from November 17, 2004 Meeting**

The notes from the November 17, 2004 meeting were reviewed and no changes were recommended.

**2. Update on Availability of Inpatient Psychiatric Beds**

- Jim Thur noted HCA's announcement that admissions to Northern Virginia Community Hospital's psychiatric and medical units will cease on February 8.

- Bryan Dearing indicated the closure of the Northern Virginia Community Hospital (NVCH) marks a step towards the opening of a new facility in Broadlands (Loudoun County). He indicated some surgical inpatient beds will remain at NVCH, along with outpatient and emergency services; outpatient services will continue to operate at the facility even after the opening of the new Broadlands center. He added that Dominion Hospital will work to accommodate as many patients as possible, and that the closure of Dominion is not planned until such time as the new Broadlands facility opens. Bryan also indicated that HCA is in preliminary discussions with a mental health service provider from another area of the state regarding leasing long-term residential space and inpatient medical mental health space at the NVCH facility. Jim Thur commented that it would be beneficial if any new service provider accepted public patients. Bryan responded that if a new provider is found, HCA will work to involve the localities as the process goes forward.
- Jim Thur asked the hospital representatives to bed projections, which were provided.

### **3. Input to Commissioner's Integrated Strategic Plan**

Jim Thur indicated materials would be sent to Partnership members, including the revised work plan for the group. He indicated that as part of the Commissioner's plan, localities will need to provide feedback regarding acute inpatient crisis stabilization. This would include recommendations from the Partnership on what roles public and private service providers should fill and at what service level. Several other relevant issues were mentioned, including state facilities, forensic patients, geriatric patients as well as the implications of jail diversion on the need for psychiatric hospital beds.

### **4. Conceptualizing Levels of Treatment**

Lynn DeLacy briefly reviewed the history and development of the four levels of care model being proposed to the workgroup, noting the model was developed in order to start a database and begin discussions about how and where people are served. Amanda Goza described the service levels and reviewed the data which was gathered over the past year and a half. Lynn indicated that when developing the model, staff worked to incorporate challenges and past dialogue from private sector partners. There was some feedback that the data was not truly reflective of the persons being served in the private hospitals and it was noted that both surveys were point in time. Lynn indicated the proposed model would develop more Level IV care in the community, with state funding. The group agreed to go forward with the model as proposed.

### **5. Role of Private Sector with regard to TDOs and Acute Beds**

Jim Thur reported that the Department is examining the issue of TDO beds, as they are only responsible for paying for them, not ensuring they are available. He indicated the Department wishes to keep TDO beds in the private sector, not at the Institute. Jim asked the group what are the obstacles private hospitals face with regard to TDOs. Some feedback included:

- Issue of holding beds vacant for TDOs
- Aggressive and/or violent patients
- Honesty from CSB staffs
- Availability of seclusion rooms
- Reimbursement for actual costs
- Have CSB staff work closely with emergency room staff to begin monitoring treatment/medications prior to transporting a patient to a TDO bed

Sharon Jones suggested having a one-time subgroup meeting to discuss TDO issues and the group agreed. Rita Romano will facilitate the meeting on February 8.

#### **6. Future Meeting Schedule**

The next meeting was scheduled for March 8 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center in Conference Rooms 2/3.

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